

HOUSE BILL NO. 16

INTRODUCED BY P. INGRAHAM

BY REQUEST OF THE STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS INTERIM COMMITTEE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING ELECTION ADMINISTRATORS TO DETERMINE THE USE OF ACCESSIBLE VOTING MACHINES FOR CERTAIN MAIL BALLOT ELECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 13-19-307, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 13-19-307, MCA, is amended to read:

"13-19-307. Places of deposit. (1) The election administrator shall designate ~~his~~ the election administrator's office and may designate one or more places in the political subdivision in which the election is being conducted as places of deposit where ballots may be returned in person by the elector.

(2) Prior to election day, ballots may be returned to any designated place of deposit only during regular business hours.

(3) On election day, each location designated as a place of deposit must be open as provided in 13-1-106, and ballots may be returned during those hours.

(4) The election administrator may designate certain locations as election day places of deposit, and ~~any location so designated~~ those locations shall function as ~~a place~~ places of deposit only on election day.

(5) For any election other than a federal or state election or a county election held in conjunction with a federal or state election, the election administrator may determine whether to use an accessible voting machine at a place of deposit.

~~(5)(6)~~ (6) The election administrator shall provide each designated place of deposit with an official ballot transport box secured as provided by law."

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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